



For immediate release

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Rapid growth leads to increased security

As a rapidly growing concern handling projects locally, regionally, nationally and as far afield as Spain and Portugal, Sheffield-based CS Surveying and Architectural Design Ltd are well aware of the growing need for effective integral security measures.

And the company that has grown to an eight-strong workforce in three years has practised what it preaches with comprehensively improved security measures at its Dinnington headquarters, aided by a £3,900 grant from the Business Crime Reduction Centre. External roller shutters, a sophisticated alarm system and extensive cctv coverage have been installed under the scheme.

CS Surveying and Architectural Design Ltd has grown turnover 400% year on year and last year handled projects totalling £35m. Managing Director John Cawkwell-Stansfield, says: "We handle a wide range of projects, from small-scale domestic developments to large commercial and public sector schemes with occasional overseas schemes.

"As a multi-disciplinary practice of Chartered Architects and Chartered Surveyors we have to be at the forefront of building pathology, design and procurement and be aware of all local, regional and national developments and strategies on all types of buildings, businesses and construction, including security and crime reduction initiatives.

"Naturally, many of our projects include built-in security measures and we are well aware of the damage business crime can cause. Accordingly, we have been able to adopt a belt and braces approach to total security, thanks to the grant. We have been so impressed with the work of the BCRC that, as Chairman of the Rotherham Construction Forum, operating within the Chamber of Commerce, we are co-operating to positively advocate and further promote its activities."

BCRC business adviser, Zac Wharton, who organised the grant, said: "CS Surveying and Architectural Design is a company on the move and the BCRC is pleased to contribute to this success. We're delighted this company takes business crime seriously and regards it as integral to continued growth."

Notes to Editors:

The Sheffield-based Business Crime Reduction Centre launched this year to reduce the impact of crime on economic growth and development.

Supported by funding from Yorkshire Forward, the European Community and Objective 1, the scheme has a £1.8m budget for the next three years. However, David Ransom, chief executive of the charity and the Centre says that further support “in kind” will more than double that amount.

“We are working with organisations including South Yorkshire Police, Business Link, ICT Yorkshire, the Federation of Small Businesses and local Chambers of Commerce,” says Ransom, adding that the DTI and Sheffield Hallam University will also be involved on self-diagnostic projects, helping businesses to help themselves.

“We’re targeting Small and Medium sized businesses (SMEs) with up to 250 staff, turnover under E50m. And thanks to Yorkshire Forward and Objective 1, generous grant aid will be available for suitably qualified firms.”

A major initiative for BCRC is to increase the use of e-business practices amongst SMEs. The project has established a specialist business support service, dedicated to increasing the uptake of ICT solutions by providing guidance and reassurance to reduce the negative economic impact of e-crime and other associated criminal acts.

Says Ransom: “Any drive to encourage more businesses to adopt e-business practices to improve quality, increase competitiveness, customer satisfaction and reduce costs can only be successful if companies have confidence in trading on-line in a secure and risk-free manner.”

Chief Inspector Dave Fortune, Police Adviser to Yorkshire Forward, said: “Dealing with the aftermath of business crime adds significant costs to the running of a company and it’s important that businesses have access to specialist advice to help them learn how to minimise the risks.”

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Contact the Business Crime Reduction Centre
on 0114 275 1283 or visit our website at www.bcrc-uk.org

Business Crime Reduction Centre, working with South Yorkshire Police to reduce crime against business

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